

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 118E and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, a remote public hearing will be held on Monday, October 25, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. relative to the emergency adoption of:

**101 CMR 449.00: Rates for Certain Home- and Community-based Services Related to Workforce Development**

101 CMR 449.00 establishes the payment rates, inclusive of the time-limited statutory required add-on amounts set forth in the SFY '22 budget language, for MassHealth-covered home health aide services, and for homemaker and personal care waiver services.

SFY '22 budget language at Section 2, line item 9110-1635 of Chapter 24 of the Acts of 2021 requires EOHHS to provide a rate add-on of \$2.68 per hour (or \$0.67 per 15-minute unit) for MassHealth-covered home health aide services, and \$2.96 per hour (or \$0.74 per 15-minute unit) for MassHealth-covered homemaker and personal care waiver services for dates of service on or after July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The regulation is in accordance with this statutory requirement. The rates established in the regulation are expected to increase annual aggregate expenditures for MassHealth-covered home health aide services by \$1.8 million and for homemaker and personal care waiver services by \$2.5 million.

The regulation went into effect as an emergency on October 1, 2021. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to [www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings). To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to [ehs-regulations@mass.gov](mailto:ehs-regulations@mass.gov) as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on October 25, 2021. EOHHS specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulation, go to [www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings) or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at [ADAAccommodations@mass.gov](mailto:ADAAccommodations@mass.gov) or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

EOHHS may adopt a final, revised version of the emergency regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at [www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/executive-office-of-health-and-human-services-public-hearings).

October 4, 2021